



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

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ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION
NUMBER 442

OPR: TREATMENT

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

I. GENERAL

The purpose of this regulation is to establish policies and procedures for inmates requiring mental health services while incarcerated.

II. PURPOSE

1. To provide clinically effective mental health services, while fostering an environment of trust and cooperation.
2. To ensure a continuity of care and consistency in the frequency of care.
3. To delineate mental health services, so staff can competently perform job assignments.
4. To facilitate the coordination of efforts of ADOC psychological services staff with the contractor's mental health staff in the provision of mental health care.
5. To permit an on-going system-wide analysis of inmate mental health needs.

III. RESPONSIBILITY

The final authority for ADOC mental health decisions will be the ADOC Director of Treatment. The decisions will be based on ADOC policy and procedure as well as community standards of mental health services. The Director of Treatment will work cooperatively with institutional administrative staff to ensure mutual expectations are understood and conflicts in implementation are minimized.



IV. POLICY

1. Clinical decisions and actions regarding the mental health treatment provided to inmates are based on the philosophy that medical and mental health decisions should be made for medical and mental health reasons by qualified medical and mental health professionals.
2. Fundamental to appreciating the needs of a correctional mental health service is an understanding and awareness of the legal context of such services. Three basic rights have emerged concerning the provisions of mental health care: 1) the right to access care, 2) the right that is ordered, and 3) the right to a professional medical judgment.
3. Communication and coordination of therapeutic efforts help form a solid foundation for quality mental health services within the correctional setting. ADOC psychological services staff and contracted mental health care providers will ensure the coordination of services. In addition, when an inmate is admitted or released from the system, ADOC staff will attempt to achieve the communication with community providers to facilitate continuity of care.

V. PROCEDURES:

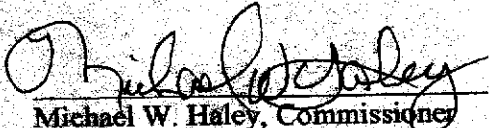
1. Mental Health Services Policies and Procedures apply to all institutions. If an institution is unable to implement a specific procedure, the Director of Treatment will be advised in writing of the need for variance. The Director will provide written approval or denial of the variance for inclusion in the institution's policy manual.
2. The following policies and procedures are subsumed under the authority of the Regulation, and provide the framework for ADOC mental health services:

443 Autonomy in Mental Health Decision
 444 Confidentiality of Mental Health Services and Mental Health
 Documentation
 445 Mental Health Staff Participation in Forensic Evaluations
 446 Mental Health Quality Improvement Program
 447 Mental Health Staff Orientation
 448 Staff Training in Mental Health
 449 Referral for Mental Health Screening
 450 Reception Mental Health Screening
 451 Inmate Orientation to Mental Health Services
 452 Reception Mental Health Evaluations
 453 Coding and Tracking Inmates with Serious Mental Illness
 454 Intra-System Transfers: Mental Health Screenings
 455 Psychiatric Evaluation
 456 Psychotropic Medication
 457 Psychotropic Medication Administration
 458 Psychotropic Medication Monitoring
 459 Psychotropic Medication and Heat

- 460 Emergency Forced Psychotropic Medication
- 461 Administrative Review for Involuntary Psychotropic Medication
- 462 Treatment Planning
- 463 Outpatient Mental Health Services
- 464 Mental Health Segregation Rounds
- 465 Mental Health Evaluation of Inmates on Segregation Status
- 466 Mental Health Consultation to Disciplinary Process
- 467 Outpatient Crisis Intervention Services
- 468 Discharge Planning when Inmate Released from ADOC
- 469 Suicide Prevention Program
- 470 Mental Health Watch Procedures: Therapeutic Seclusion
- 471 Use of Physical Restraints for Mental Health Purposes
- 472 Intensive Psychiatric Stabilization Units: Program Manual
- 473 Residential Treatment Units: Program Manual
- 474 Transfer to State-Operated Psychiatric Hospital
- 475 Mental Health Documentation Format and Charting Guidelines
- 476 Mental Health Services: Monthly Reporting

VI. REFERENCES

Estelle v. Gamble (1976)
Bowling v. Godwin (1977)
Ruiz v. Estelle (1980)
Washington v. Harper (1989)
Langley v. Coughlin (1989)
Farmer v. Brennan (1994)
Madrid v. Gomez (1995)
Correctional Medical Health Care: Standards and
Guidelines for Delivering Services (1999) In
*National Commission of Correctional Health
Care: Standards for Health Services.*



Michael W. Haley, Commissioner